Volume 46



Epidemiological BulletinSRI LANKA

First Quarter 2005

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Epidemiology UnitMinistry of Health

http://www.epid.gov.lk

1. POLIOMYELITIS

A total of 34 cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) were notified in the 1st quarter of 2005 compared to 22 cases notified in the previous quarter.

The distribution of these 34 cases of AFP according to the Deputy Provincial Directors of Health Services (DPDHS) divisions and Medical Officers of Health/Divisional Directors of Health Services (MOOH/DDDHS) areas is as follows:

DPDHS KANDY	<u>1</u>
MOH Kundasale	1
DPDHS KALUTARA	3
MOH Kalutara	1
MOH Beruwela	1
MOH Walallawita	1
DPDHS GAMPAHA MOH Negombo MOH Dompe MOH Biyagama MOH Katana	7 2 2 2 1
DPDHS RATNAPURA	3
MOH Godakawela	1
MOH Pelmadulla	1
MOH Elapatha	1
DPDHS KEGALLE	<u>1</u>
MOH Yatiyantota	1
DPDHS ANURADHAPURA MOH Kebethigollewa	<u>1</u>
DPDHS MATARA	<u>2</u>
MOH Weligama	1
MOH Kotapola	1

DPDHS KURUNEGALA MOH Pannala MOH Bingiriya	<u>3</u> 1 2
DPDHS COLOMBO MOH Piliyandala MOH Homagama MOH Dehiwela	<u>3</u> 1 1
DPDHS GALLE MOH Niyagama MOH Ahungalla	<u>2</u> 1 1
DPDHS NUWARA ELIYA MOH Thalawakele	<u>1</u> 1
DPDHS MULLATIVU MOH Mallavi	<u>1</u> 1
DPDHS MONERAGALA MOH Buttala	<u>1</u> 1
DPDHS PUTTALAM MOH Kalpitiya MOH Chilaw MOH Anamaduwa	3 1 1 1
DPDHS JAFFNA MOH MC Jaffna	<u>1</u>

Age and Sex Distribution

DPDHS KALMUNAIMOH Samanthurai

Table 1 shows the age and sex distribution of the 34 cases reported during the quarter.

Table 1.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF 34 AFP CASES – 1ST QUARTER 2005

Age Group	Se	ex	Total
-	Male	Female	
Below 1 year	0	0	0
1 – 4 years	9	7	16
5 – 9 years	7	5	12
10 – 14 years	3	2	5
Over 15 years	0	1	1
Total	19	15	34

Surveillance

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The distribution of these 34 cases of AFP according to notifications from hospitals is as follows:

Hospital	No. of cases
Lady Ridgeway Hospital (LRH)	11
T.H. Colombo South	04
T.H. Kandy	02
T.H. Peradeniya	01
T.H. Ratnapura	02
T.H. Karapitiya	03
T.H. Jaffna	02
T.H. Ragama	01
G.H. Kalutara	01
G.H. Anuradhapura	01
B.H. Chilaw	02
B.H. Nuwara Eliya	01
B.H. Negombo	01
National Hospital Sri Lanka (NHSL)	02

T.H. - Teaching Hospital G.H. - General Hospital B.H. - Base Hospital

Table 2.

LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE OF STOOL SAMPLES FOR POLIO VIROLOGY

	No.	%
No. of AFP cases from whom -		
(1) At least 1 stool sample	34	100.0
collected (the lab data was		
reviewed at the		
Epidemiological Unit with the		
Virologist/MRI)		
(2) At least 1 stool sample	33	97.0
collected within 14 days of		
onset of paralysis (and		
received by MRI, Colombo)		
(3) Two stool samples	28	82.0
collected within 14 days of		
onset of paralysis (and		
received by the MRI,		
Colombo)		

MRI - Medical Research Institute

2. ENTERIC FEVER

In the 1st quarter of 2005, 697 cases of enteric fever were reported to the Epidemiological Unit, compared to 777

cases in the previous quarter and 774 cases in the corresponding quarter of 2004.

DPDHS divisions of Ratnapura (125), Jaffna (119) and Vavuniya (118) reported the highest number of cases accounting for 52% of the total case load.

The following MOH areas recorded the highest number of cases.

MOH Area	No. of cases
Vavuniya Telippalai Kolonna Manipay	108 43 33 30

3. VIRAL HEPATITIS

In the 1st quarter of 2005, 420 cases of viral hepatitis were reported to the Epidemiological Unit, compared to 434 cases in the previous quarter (4th quarter 2004) and 552 cases in the corresponding quarter of 2004. Among the reported cases, 290 were investigated and confirmed as viral hepatitis.

4. DYSENTERY

A total of 1,508 dysentery cases were reported in the 1st quarter of 2005, compared to 3,874 cases in the previous quarter of 2004 and 1,357 cases in the corresponding quarter of last year.

The highest number of cases was reported from the following MOH areas.

MOH Area	No. of cases
Mutur	66
Yatiyantota	62
Rattota	49
Kothmale	47
Pelmadulla	36

5. CHOLERA

In the 1st quarter of 2005, no confirmed cases of cholera were reported to the Epidemiological Unit.

No confirmed cases of cholera were reported in the previous quarter or the corresponding quarter of last year.

6. TETANUS

Table 3.

During the 1st quarter of 2005, 8 cases of tetanus were notified to the Epidemiological Unit, out of which 3 cases (50%) were investigated and confirmed within the same quarter as shown in Table 3.

DISTRIBUTION OF TETANUS CASES BY DPDHS DIVISIONS

QUARTER 2005 DPDHS No. No. Division notified confirmed Matara 02 01 Gampaha 01 Kandy 01 Badulla 01 Batticaloa 01 01 01 Hambantota 01 Kalmunai 01

Out of the 03 confirmed cases of tetanus, 01 had been fatal. No cases of neo-natal tetanus were reported during this period.

80

03

7. MEASLES

Total

A total of 19 cases of measles were reported during the 1st quarter 2005, when compared to 21 cases notified in the 4th quarter 2004 and 20 cases notified in the 1st guarter 2004.

During the 1st quarter 2005, 12 cases of suspected measles cases were investigated.

out of which 5 cases were confirmed as measles.

January - March 2005

8. LEPTOSPIROSIS

In the 1st quarter of 2005, 402 leptospirosis cases were notified to the Epidemiological Unit compared to 592 cases in the previous quarter (4th quarter 2004) and 286 cases in the 1st guarter of 2004. Among the reported cases 317 were confirmed as leptospirosis.

Table 4.

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF **CONFIRMED CASES OF MEASLES** - 1ST QUARTER 2005

(N = 5)		
Variable	No.	
Sex Male Female	05 00	
Age group <1 year 1- 9 yrs. 10 - 19 yrs. 20 - 29 yrs. 30 - 39 yrs. >40	00 01 00 02 01 01	
District *Trincomalee Matale Kegalle	03 01 01	
Immunization Status Immunized Non immunized	01 04	

^{* 02} cases reported from the Navy camp.

9. HUMAN RABIES

In the 1st quarter of 2005, 13 human rabies cases were notified to the Epidemiological Unit, compared to 23 cases in the previous quarter (4th quarter 2004) and 21 cases in the corresponding quarter of the last year.

Highest incidence of rabies was reported from Jaffna district (04 cases) compared to 02 cases in the previous quarter and 05 cases in the corresponding quarter of last year

Animal Rabies*

One hundred and five (105) dogs were reported positive for rabies compared to 126 positives in the previous quarter and 154 positives in the same period in the last year.

In addition the following animals were also reported positive for rabies.

Cats – 11, Wild animals – 02, Domestic ruminants – 06

Rabies Control Activities*

Dog vaccination – A total of 196,375 dogs were immunized during the 1st quarter 2005 compared to 141,500 in the previous quarter and 241,500 in the corresponding quarter of last year.

Stray dog elimination – A total of 24,409 dogs were destroyed during the 1st quarter 2005 compared to 17,109 in the previous quarter and 24,191 in the corresponding quarter of last year.

10. TUBERCULOSIS

A total of 2,172 tuberculosis patients were registered for the 1st quarter by the National Programme for Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases.

Of this total, 1,822 suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis, while the balance 350 patients suffered from non pulmonary tuberculosis.

There were 1,211 bacteriologically confirmed cases and the bacteriological confirmation rate was 66.5%.

The distribution of tuberculosis patients registered for the 1st quarter 2005 by age, sex and DPDHS divisions is given in Table 5 and 6 respectively.

One thousand one hundred and ninety (1190) Tuberculosis patients and 1,118 other patients were hospitalized during the quarter.

Central Laboratory – 1700 cultures were done during the period.

B.C.G. Vaccination

A total of 80550 B.C.G. vaccinations were carried out during the 1st quarter 2005 with 97.81% coverage.

^{*} Source - Director/PHVS

Table 5.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS

1ST QUARTER 2005

Age group in years	I	Male	Fe	male		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 5	20	54	17	46	37	1.7
5 – 9	13	52	12	48	25	1.2
10 –14	14	44	18	56	32	1.5
15 –19	45	54	38	46	83	3.8
20 –24	106	58	76	42	182	8.4
25 –29	82	45	101	55	183	8.4
30 –34	118	66	62	34	180	8.2
35 –39	111	65	59	35	170	7.8
40 –44	161	74	56	26	217	10.0
45 –49	143	74	50	26	193	9.0
50 –54	168	74	59	26	227	10.5
55 –59	136	76	42	24	178	8.2
60 –64	129	73	48	27	177	8.1
65 –69	71	70	31	30	102	4.7
70 –74	61	60	35	40	96	4.4
75 +	57	63	33	37	90	4.1
TOTAL	1435	66.0	737	34.0	2172	100.0

Source: National Programme for Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases.

January – March 2005

Table 6.

REGISTRATION OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS BY DPDHS DIVISIONS

1ST QUARTER 2005

DPDHS Division	* P.T.B.	** O.T.B.	Total		ry TB Direct Positive
				No.	%
Colombo	432	59	491	345	79.9
Gampaha	89	11	100	69	77.5
Kalutara	124	30	154	102	82.3
Kandy	180	39	219	114	63.3
Matale	54	9	63	30	55.6
Nuwara Eliya	37	11	48	18	48.6
Hambantota	25	9	34	17	68.0
Matara	51	13	64	25	49.0
Galle	98	20	118	75	76.5
Jaffna	47	19	66	36	76.6
Vavuniya	15	3	18	9	60.0
Mannar	5	2	7	4	80.0
Trincomalee	34	7	41	22	64.7
Ampara	41	7	48	19	46.3
Batticaloa	35	7	42	17	48.6
Puttalam	38	7	45	28	73.7
Kurunegala	174	30	204	78	44.8
Polonnaruwa	32	0	32	19	59.4
Anuradhapura	36	8	44	18	50.0
Badulla	62	12	74	40	64.5
Moneragala	16	7	23	11	68.8
Ratnapura	115	24	139	62	53.9
Kegalle	73	14	87	44	60.3
Kilinochchi	3	1	4	3	100.0
Mullativu	6	1	7	6	100.0
TOTAL	1822	350	2172	1211	66.5

^{*} PTB – Pulmonary Tuberculosis **OTB – Other Tuberculosis

Source: National Programme for Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases.

11. MALARIA

Table 7.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORT – 1ST QUARTER 2005

District	B.F.	+ves	P.v.	P.f.
Colombo	7011	1	1	0
Gampaha	4877	4	4	0
Kalutara	1101	0	0	0
Kandy	7580	8	8	0
Matale	3022	12	12	0
Nuwara Eliya	46	0	0	0
Galle	111	0	0	0
Matara	2081	2	2	0
Hambantota	8698	2	2	0
Jaffna	20978	15	14	1
Kilinochchi	7239	14	14	0
Vavuniya	6636	25	13	12
Mannar	7219	0	0	0
Mullativu	5284	1	1	0
Batticaloa	12590	27	25	2
Ampara	4938	11	5	6
Kalmunai	6181	0	0	0
Trincomalee	8264	128	124	4
Kurunegala	24767	76	76	0
Puttalam	6815	44	22	22
Anuradhapura	40306	290	272	18
Polonnaruwa	14003	17	15	2
Badulla	6672	1	1	0
Moneragala	16286	4	3	1
Ratnapura	3767	9	8	1
Kegalle	1949	4	4	0
Total	228421	695	626	69

The majority of microscopically confirmed malaria cases were reported from the districts of Trincomalee, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala. Out of the total 695 positive cases, only 69 were P. falciparum.

During the 1st quarter of 2005, there was a significant reduction in the incidence of malaria in comparison with the same period of 2004 as seen in table.

Table 8.

RESULTS OF BLOOD SMEAR EXAMINATION FOR MALARIA PARASITES

1ST QUARTER 2004/2005

	1 st Quarter 2004	1 st Quarter 2005
No. of blood smears examined	289,430	241,138
No. of positives	1,350	739
No. of <i>P. vivax</i>	1,178	670
No. of <i>P. falciparum</i>	162	55
No. of mixed infections	10	14
Slide Positivity Rate (S.P.R.)	0.47%	0.31%
P.v.: P.f. ratio	7:1	10:1
No. of infant positives	19	5
Percentage of infant positives	1.41%	0.68%

Malaria mortality - 2004 - 01

2005 - not reported

12. JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS (J.E.)

In the 1st quarter of 2005, 17 cases of Encephalitis were reported to the Epidemiological Unit (Table 9).

Among the reported cases, 6 cases were investigated in detail and 5 of them found to be clinically confirmed JE. Out of 5 cases, one case was fatal (CFR 20%).

This is in comparison to 14 cases and 1 death in the previous quarter (CFR 7.1%) and 35 cases and 01 death in the corresponding quarter of the last year (CFR %).

Table 9.

DISTRIBUTION OF JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS CASES BY DPDHS DIVISIONS -1ST QUARTER 2005

January – March 2005

DPDHS Area	Cases	Deaths
Ratnapura	3	1
Gampaha	1	0
Kurunegala	1	0
TOTAL	5	1

13. LEPROSY

Table 10.

QUARTERLY RETURN OF LEPROSY STATISTICS 1ST QUARTER 2005

1. Nationals

North Central

North Western

Sabaragamuwa

Kurunegala

Puttalam

Kegalle

Badulla

Uva

Ratnapura

Moneragala

Trincomalee

Batticaloa

. Kalmunai

Eastern

Vavuniya

Mannar

Mulativu

Kilinochchi

Northern

Sri Lanka

Jaffna

Ampara

		nd of the c	uarter	Cumulative fo	r end of the	quarter
	1 st	1 st	Diff.	2005	2004	Diff. (%)
	Quarter 2005	Quarter 2004	(%)			. ,
New patients detected	460	456	0.9	460	456	0.9
Children	59	44	34	59	44	34
Grade 2 Deformities	28	39	-28.2	28	39	-28.2
Multi-Bacillary	176	195	-9.7	176	195	-9.7
Females	199	187	6.4	199	187	6.4
2. District						
District N	ew patients	Deform	nities	Child	MB	Females
Colombo	10	7	4	23	28	49
Gampaha	5	1	3	4	18	20
Kalutara	3	9	0	8	8	15
Western	19	7	7	35	54	84
Galle		6	0	0	1	0
Matara	2	5	0	4	12	12
Hambantota	1	5	1	3	6	8
Southern	4	6	1	7	19	20
Kandy	1	2	1	1	3	4
Matale		6	0	2	1	4
Nuwara Eliya		3	1	0	1	1
Central	2	1	2	3	5	9
Anuradhapura	2	0	3	1	12	4
Polonnaruwa	1	8	0	1	6	11

Source: Leprosy Campaign

14. DENGUE FEVER (D.F.) / DENGUE HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER (D.H.F.)

The total number of DF/DHF cases and deaths reported during the first quarter 2005 were 862 and 5 respectively (CFR 0.58%). This compares with 1435 cases and 9 deaths during the previous quarter (CFR 0.6%) and 2129 cases and 14 deaths in the corresponding quarter (CFR 0.66%) of last year. This signifies a reduction in both cases and deaths reported during the first quarter 2005.

Table 11 shows the distribution of DF/DHF cases and deaths in the DPDHS divisions during the 1st quarter 2005.

Table 11.

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY DUE TO DF/DHF - 1ST QUARTER 2005

DPDHS Division	Cases	Deaths
Colombo	301	-
Gampaha	192	02
Kalutara	46	-
Kandy	37	01
Matale	7	-
Nuwara Eliya	2	-
Galle	7	-
Hambantota	4	-
Matara	18	-
Jaffna	4	-
Kilinochchi	0	-
Mannar	0	-
Vavuniya	14	-
Mullativu	0	-
Batticaloa	0	-
Ampara	3	-
Tricomalee	28	01
Kurunegala	43	01
Puttalam	64	-
Anuradhapura	21	-

Polonnaruwa	14	-
Badulla	8	-
Moneragala	1	-
Ratnapura	29	-
Kegalle	17	-
Kalmunai	2	-
TOTAL	862	05

Colombo District reported the highest number of cases followed by Gampaha District. Out of the 5 deaths reported for the quarter 2 were from Gampaha District followed by one each from Kandy, Trincomalee and Kurunegala Districts.

Table 12.

DHF STATISTICS FROM DEPARTMENT OF VIROLOGY, MRI - 1ST QUARTER 2005

Month	Clinically Suspected	Serologically Confirmed
January	12	9
February	6	4
March	13	9
TOTAL	31	22

15. ENTOMOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE OF DENGUE VECTORS

Results of the entomological surveillance carried out by the Medical Research Institute, in selected MOH areas of Colombo and Gampaha districts, for the 1st quarter 2005 are given in Table 13.

Surveillance activities were carried out in locations selected by random sampling technique and action has been taken to eliminate the breeding sites detected.

Breteau Index

= No. of Positive containers x 100 No. of premises inspected

Table 13.

AEDES LARVAL DENSITIES (BRETEAU INDEX) IN COLOMBO AND GAMPAHA DISTRICTS – 1ST QUARTER 2005

Area	Janu	January February March		February		ch
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)
Colombo MC	5.79	3.68	4.5	2.45	4.4	2.5
Maharagama	3.27	16.0	3.6	12.4	1.5	8.4
Kaduwela	6.22	11.6	3.0	9.5	5.8	8.0
Angoda	5.14	9.14	5.3	16.7	1.7	6.7
Moratuwa	3.11	5.4	3.5	4.0	6.8	6.0
Ragama	0.73	6.91	8.0	4.3	0.67	5.0
Ja-Ela	7.56	11.6	4.0	8.0	7.2	12.7
Kelaniya	10.0	12.0	6.0	12.0	7.2	10.0

(A) = Aedes aegypti

(B) = Aedes albopictus

Number of premises examined per area = 300

16. SURVEILLANCE AT AIR PORT

Surveillance activities carried out at the International Airport, Katunayake during the 1st quarter 2005 is given below.

1. Granting Pratique to Aircrafts

a. No. issued - 3316

2. Airport Sanitation

a.	No. of sanitary inspections		-	12
	carried out including food			
	establishments			
b.	No. of food samples	-		Nil
	taken under Food Act			
c.	No. found defective	-		Nil
d.	No. of court cases/	-		Nil
	prosecuted			

3. Food consignments

a. No. of food consignments - 183 inspected

b	No. released	-	183
c.	No. reiected	-	Nil

17. SURVEILLANCE AT SEA PORT

Surveillance activities carried out by the Port Health Office at Colombo Harbour during the 1st quarter 2005 is given below.

1. Yellow Fever Vaccination

Total number vaccinated	-	7
2. Granting Pratique to Ve No. issued	ssels -	966
3. Deratting Certification No. issued	-	61

Vaccinations carried out by the Assistant Port Health Office, Colombo 8, during the 1st quarter 2005 is given below.

		Jan	Feb	Mar
a.	Yellow fever	18	75	113
b.	Meningococcal	105	63	64
	Meningitis			
C.	TAB	71	42	56

18. SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES QUARTERLY SUMMARY

Statistics relating to sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS received from the National STD/AIDS Control Programme are given in Table 14.

Table 14.

NEW EPISODES OF STD/HIV/AIDS REPORTED OR TREATED AT STD CLINICS IN SRI
LANKA* - 1ST QUARTER 2005

Disease			ases or new e episodes d arter	during	episodes	w cases or n s for the cale to end of the	ndar
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
HIV posit	tives ¹	19	16	35	19	16	35
AIDS		9	2	11	9	2	11
	Early Syphilis ²	21	9	30	21	9	30
Syphilis	Late Syphilis ³	70	90	160	70	90	160
	Congenital Syphilis ⁴	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gonorrho	oea ⁵	274	79	353	274	79	353
Ophthaln	nia neonatorum ⁶	6	3	9	6	3	9
Non spec	cific cervicitis/urethritis	146	304	450	146	304	450
Chlamyd	ial Infection	4	3	7	4	3	7
Genital H	Herpes	185	170	355	185	170	355
Genital V	Varts	138	81	219	138	81	219
Chancroi	id	2	1	3	2	1	3
Trichomo	oniasis	4	28	32	4	28	32
Candidas	sis	227	284	511	227	284	511
Bacterial	Vaginosis	0	240	240	0	240	240
Other sea	xually transmitted diseases ⁷	103	41	144	103	41	144
Non-ven	erial ⁸	842	505	1347	842	505	1347

^{*} Central STD clinic Colombo and peripheral STD clinics of National STD/AIDS Control Programme of Sri Lanka

^{** -} includes adjustments for revised diagnosis, reporting delays or any other amendments

¹ - includes AIDS cases

² – Diagnosed within 2 years of infection and considered to be infectious

³ - Diagnosed after 2 years of infection and considered to be non-infectious

⁴ – includes both early and late cases

⁵ – includes presumptive gonorrhoea

⁶ – includes both gonococcal and chlamydial conjunctivitis in neonatal period

⁷ -includes Lympho granuloma venerium, Granuloma inguinalae, Molluscum contagiosum, Scabies, Tinea, Hepatitis B etc.

⁸ – Number of STD clinic attendees who were not having sexually transmitted diseases.

MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

19. BACTERIOLOGY REPORT – 1ST QUARTER 2005

Table 15.

	January	February	March
(A) CHOLERA			
No. of stool spe. examined	01	01	_
No. of El. tor cholera	-	-	-
Ogawa	-	-	-
Inaba	-	-	-
Cholera 0139	-	-	-
(B) SALMONELLA			
Blood No. examined	78	48	37
S. typhi	02	-	02
S. paratyphi	-	-	-
Stools – No. examined	149	166	121
No. +Ve S. typhi	-	-	-
S. paratyphi A	-	-	-
Others	04	02	02
(C) SHIGELLA			
No. of spec. examined	149	166	121
No. +ve Sh. flexneri 1	04	04	01
Sh. flexneri 2	03	01	02
Sh. flexneri 3	-	-	-
Sh. flexneri 4	-	-	-
Sh. flexneri 5	-	-	-
Sh. flexneri 6	-	-	01
Sh. sonnei	09	80	06
Sh. others	-	-	-
(D) ENTEROPATHOGENIC			
E. coli			
No. of spec, examined	87	90	61
No. +ve Group A	02	02	01
(E) CAMPYLOBACTOR SPECIES	05	06	04

20. SURVEILLANCE REPORT OF LEPTOSPIROSIS – 2004

Following the worst ever outbreak of leptospirosis in Sri Lanka in 2003, a significant (35%) drop of incidence was observed in 2004. The number notified Epidemiology Unit was 1,447, when compared to the 2234 cases in 2003. However out of the notified 1447 cases, only 561 were confirmed by the MOOH. During the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of leptospirosis cases reported in the country. (Figure 1) This increase may be due to the occurrence of outbreaks of leptospirosis in some districts and also due to the improved case detection. The actual incidence of Leptospirosis is likely to be more than the hospital admission figures, as a large number of patients with mild form of the disease do not seek treatment at all or are being treated by private practitioners, therefore not reported to the epidemiologists. A large number of undiagnosed patients treated at the OPD is not reported to the Epidemiologist, as OPD reporting is poor or due to misdiagnosis. However, it is noticed that there is a lack of notification from some institutions.

The highest number of 179 cases was reported in Kalutara and Kegalle districts. The incidence rate for the country was 7.4/100.000, where the highest incidence rate of 22.2/100,000 was reported from Kegalle DPDHS division (Table 16). The other DPDHS areas where high numbers of leptospirosis cases reported were; Colombo (135 cases, 5.8/100,000), Gampaha (133 cases, 6.2/100,000), (147 Matara cases, 18.6/100,000) and Ratnapura (109 cases, 10.4/100.000). Zero cases were reported from Vavunia and Mullativu. The possibility of under reporting cases in some DPDHS divisions cannot be ruled out.

The disease occurrence was increased during May – July and October – December in 2004. (Figure 2) However in previous years, the first seasonal peak was observed in March –May. These seasonal trends are important to be highlighted, particularly in targeting preventive activities. Paddy cultivation takes place in most of these endemic areas and the peak

incidence is associated with the paddy harvesting seasons. During this period, there is an increase in the rodent population in and around the fields.

The analysis of 561 confirmed investigated cases in 2004 of leptospirosis cases shows that the male to female sex ratio is around 9:1 as it was observed in the previous years. (Table 17) This further highlights the evidence of occupation related nature of the disease. As in the past years possible increased risk among working and physically activated groups was observed. Most of the affected cases were in the age group of 25-44 years (51%). Also a substantial number was reported from the age group of 45-64 years (26%) too. (Table 18).

Leptospirosis is one of the notifiable diseases in Sri Lanka. The earliest available evidence of leptospirosis having been diagnosed in Sri Lanka was in 1953. Over 19 leptospiral serovars belonging to over 7 sero-groups have been isolated and incriminated as the causative agent for leptospirosis in man and/or animals in Sri lanka.. It is an endemic disease in many parts of Sri Lanka, and occurs throughout the year. There is no national, ongoing prevention and control programme for leptospirosis and only ad-hoc programme at the divisional level are carried out by the interested MOOH.

Sentinel site surveillance was started in 2004 in order to strengthen prevention and control strategies in the affected areas. Initially these activities will be carried out in the areas where the incidence is high as models. The final objective of this is to introduce an effective and sustainable disease surveillance system for the country. Thirteen medical institutions were identified as the sentinel sites and the focal point was the Infection Control Unit/Nurses in the respective medical institutions. Regional **Epidemiologists** respective areas monitored this activity at the district level, whereas the Epidemiology unit closely monitored the programme at the national level. The surveillance activities at these sites were improved sentinel remarkably. (Table 19 and 20) These sentinel sites reported 705 cases of leptospirosis, showing 49% coverage of the total reported

cases in the country. This indicates the appropriate selection of sentinel sites and their

representational nature to cover the disease surveillance activities.

Table 16.

REPORTED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF LEPTOSPIROSIS BY DPDHS DIVISIONS

DPDHS Division	No. umber Notified	Number Confirmed	Reporting Rate/100,000		
Colombo	135	52	5.8		
Gampaha	133	59	6.2		
Kaluthara	179	66	16.3		
Kandy	48	25	3.6		
Matale	74	14	16.1		
Nuwara Eliya	18	5	2.5		
Galle	99	29	9.6		
Hambantota	47	35	8.7		
Matara	147	33	18.6		
Jaffna	3	2	0.5		
Kilinochchi	1	0	0.6		
Mannar	1	1	1.0		
Vavuniya	0	0	0.0		
Mulativu	0	0	0.0		
Batticaloa	2	0	0.4		
Ampara	12	5	2.0		
Trincomalee	5	2	1.4		
Kurunegala	47	17	3.1		
Puttalama	7	6	1.0		
Anuradhapura	52	18	6.7		
Polonnaruwa	67	45	18.0		
Badulla	33	8	4.1		
Moneragala	48	5	11.7		
Ratnapura	109	14	10.4		
Kegalle	179	120	22.2		
SRI LANKA	1447	561	7.4		

Figure 1: Leptospirosis cases Reported 1991-2003

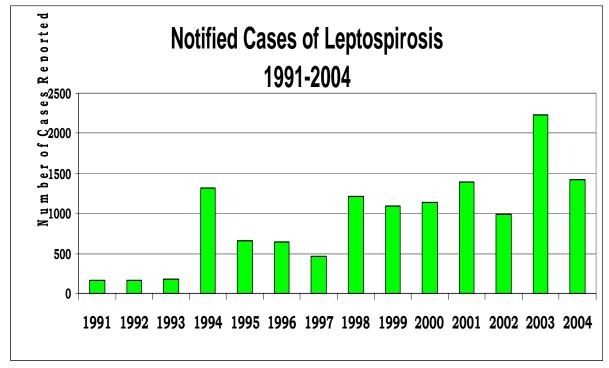


Figure 2: Leptospirosis cases by months 2000-2003

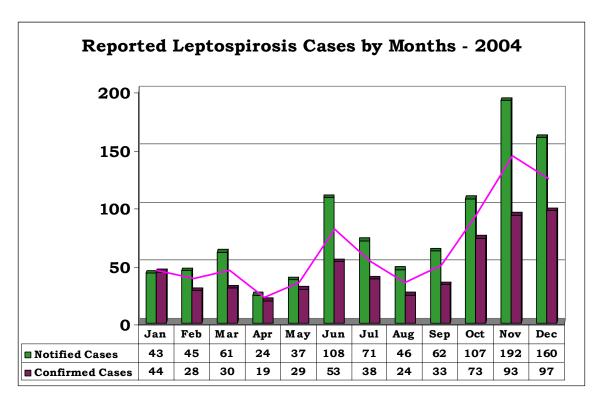


Table 17.

LEPTOSPIROSIS CASES BY SEX

	Number of Cases	%		
Male	501	89		
Female	60	11		

Table 18.

LEPTOSPIROSIS CASES BY AGE

Age Group (Years)	Number of Cases	%		
Below 1	0	0		
1 – 14	13	2.3		
15 – 24	100	17.8		
25 – 44	287	51.2		
45 – 64	146	26.1		
65 or above	14	2.6		

Table 19.

LEPTOSPIROSIS SENTINEL SITE SURVEILLANCE - 2004

	Total # Reports Received (n=20)	Total # Nil Reports	% Nil Reports	Total # Reports received on time	Timeliness %
BH Avissawella	16	0	0%	16	100%
BH Homagama	10	3	30%	10	100%
GH Ragama	14	2	14%	12	86%
BH Watupitiwala	18	14	78%	18	100%
BH Horana	20	5	25%	19	95%
BH Panadura	19	14	74%	15	79%
GH Kandy	5	3	60%	5	100%
TH Karapitiya	20	7	35%	20	100%
GH Matara	19	2	11%	15	79%
GH Kurunegala	17	13	76%	7	41%
GH Kegalle	15	2	13%	12	80%
BH Karawanella	8	2	25%	7	88%
BH Mawanella	15	14	93%	13	87%
Total	196	81	41%	169	86%

Note: Return received on time (Timeliness) = Received within 2 weeks

Table 20.

SENTINEL SITE SURVEILLANCE BY REGIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGISTS - 2004

Regional Epidemiolo gist	Total # Reports Received (n=10)	Total # Reports received on time	Timeli ness %
Colombo	8	8	100%
Gampaha	10	9	90%
Kalutara	10	6	60%
Kandy	0	0	-
Kurunegala	8	6	75%
Kegalle	10	9	90%
Galle	6	5	83%
Matara	0	0	-

21. SUMMARY OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES – 1^{ST} QUARTER (JANUARY - MARCH) 2005

Table 21.

Health Region	Cholera	*Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP)	Dysentery	Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever	Encephalitis	Enteric Fever	Food Poisoning	Human Rabies	Leptospirosis	Measles	Simple Contd. Fever	Tetanus	Typhus Fever	Viral Hepatitis
Colombo	0	3	54	301	0	13	95	0	33	0	12	0	1	29
Gampaha	0	7	52	192	2	10	11	1	36	0	1	1	0	24
Kalutara	0	3	93	46	0	16	62	1	30	0	2	0	0	14
Kandy	0	1	108	37	0	19	6	0	6	0	0	1	29	13
Matale	0	0	113	7	2	10	6	0	24	1	0	0	0	1
Nuwara Eliya	0	1	96	2	0	41	2	0	3	0	0	0	9	5
Galle	0	2	28	7	0	7	2	0	16	0	0	0	3	1
Hambantota	0	0	26	4	0	5	29	0	20	0	4	1	12	5
Matara	0	2	44	18	1	12	13	0	52	2	1	2	37	3
Jaffna	0	1	30	4	0	119	9	4	0	0	16	0	72	22
Kilinochchi	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mannar	0	0	5	0	0	16	25	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
Vavuniya	0	0	27	14	1	118	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Mullativu	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1
Batticaloa	0	0	9	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	69
Ampara	0	0	26	3	0	1	4	0	5	0	0	0	0	1
Trincomalee	0	0	117	28	0	7	14	0	5	13	3	0	1	46
Kurunegala	0	3	118	43	0	19	14	1	6	0	4	0	5	25
Puttalam	0	3	19	64	2	51	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	6
Anuradhapura	0	1	40	21	1	11	24	2	39	1	0	0	12	22
Polonnaruwa	0	0	17	14	0	27	1	0	7	1	0	0	1	8
Badulla	0	0	169	8	0	46	4	1	27	0	0	1	16	56
Moneragala	0	1	41	1	0	10	0	1	55	0	0	0	16	21
Ratnapura	0	3	149	29	7	125	9	0	17	0	1	0	3	13
Kegalle	0	1	117	17	0	7	2	0	16	1	1	0	7	21
Kalmunai	0	1	9	2	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	7
* No police	0	34	1508	862	17	697	339	15	402	20	47	8	228	420

^{*} No polio cases. (from AFP surveillance system).

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- Figures given may be subjected to revision
- The editor welcomes accounts of interesting cases, outbreaks or other public health problems of current interest to health officials.
 Such reports should be addressed to:

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This document is available on the internet www.epid.gov.lk